

HOUSE BILL 1090  
By DeBerry L

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, relative to  
a pilot project for at-risk children.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. (a) There is hereby authorized and established a pilot project for grants for group therapeutic homes for at-risk children. The pilot project shall be administered by the department of children's services. The provisions of this section shall only apply in counties having a population of not less than eight hundred ninety-seven thousand four hundred (897,400) nor more than eight hundred ninety-seven thousand five hundred (897,500) according to the 2000 federal census or any subsequent federal census. The pilot project shall expire on June 30, 2009. State funds for such grants in the 2003-2004 fiscal year may not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

(b) Group therapeutic homes shall include foster care and group homes which address the needs of at-risk youth, particularly the needs of mildly disturbed youth. Such homes shall employ a team support system for a continuity of care. The support team may include a psychiatrist or psychologist, a family therapist, a child care worker, and an activity specialist. The project may fund the refurbishing of existing homes.

Section 2. The provisions of this act shall not be construed to be an appropriation of funds and no funds shall be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless such funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act.

Section 3 . This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.